In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An open and closed metal vessel for holding hot and melting metals and to transport said liquid metals and comprising:

a selectively open and closed cover comprising a surface and a displaceable furnace riser pipe of the closed vessel on the cover;

at least one of heater elements ~~(6, 7, 8) or being fitted~~and ~~with~~ inductive heaters~~ (9, 10),~~;

at least one discharge channel;

an open or a closed cavity within an inside space of the vessel;

at least one thermally insulating material subtending the inside space of the vessel; and

a textile 3D-surface structure lining the cavity.

~~characterized in that the open and closed metal vessel (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d) in the inside space of which thermally insulating materials (3, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e, 3f) subtend an open or a closed cavity (11) which is lined with a textile 3D-surface structure (4), and that the closed melt vessel (1b) comprises a displaceable furnace riser pipe.(20).~~

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An o~~O~~pen and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that ~~the~~ when open , the metal vessel ~~(1a, 1c) may~~ comprises~~serve as~~ a hot-holding, ladling and melting furnace, and that when closed the ~~closed~~ metal vessel ~~metal vessel (1b, 1d) may serve as~~comprises at least one of a hot-holding furnace, a low-pressure casting furnace, a low-pressure metal transporting furnace, and ~~as~~ a liquid-metal transporting vessel.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in ~~either of~~ claim~~s~~ 1~~ and 2~~, characterized in that the ~~integral~~ textile 3D-surface structure ~~(4)~~ lines the cavity, the at least one discharge channel, and the cover surface integrally in at least one seamless~~, single~~-layer ~~or stratified manner the cavity (11), the discharge channels (13) and the cover surface (2', 3', 3a')~~.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in ~~either of~~ claim~~s 2 and~~ 3, characterized in that the surfaces of the ~~single~~at least one~~-~~ layer~~ or stratified~~ of textile 3D-surface structure ~~(4)~~ ~~comprise(s)~~comprises a coating depending on metal requirements.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in ~~either of~~ claim~~s~~ 3~~ and 4~~, characterized in that the textile 3D-surface structure ~~(4)~~ is made of at least one of glass ~~or~~ and ceramic fibers.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating material ~~(3, 3b)~~ subtending the inside space of the metal vessel is a seamless, upwardly open insulating housing.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in ~~either of~~ claim~~s~~ 1~~ and 6~~, characterized in that the at least one thermally insulating material~~s (3, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e, 3f may be~~ is at least one of glass foam, glass fibers, ceramic, ~~or~~ and fiber-ceramic materials.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the at least one of heater elements and inductive heaters comprise protective substances ~~of the heater elements (6, 7, 8)~~ mounted in the metal vessel ~~(1a, 1b, 1d) may be~~ and made of at least one of glass, glass fibers, and fiber ceramics.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ~~integral,~~ displaceable furnace riser pipe ~~(20)~~ is both centered and guided by a bushing ~~(21)~~ on the furnace cover ~~(16)~~ and is displaced by a drive system ~~(23)~~.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Open~~ An open and closed metal vessel as claimed by claim 1, characterized in that the ~~closed~~ metal vessel ~~(1d)~~ is received by at least one of an additional, sealable single ~~or~~ and collecting container when closed ~~(28)~~.